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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/521,057

01/12/2005

Joon-Soo Youn

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6856

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BOYLE FREDRICKSON S.C.
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EXAMINER

HARPER, LEON JONATHAN

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2166

NOTIFICATION DATE

DELIVERY MODE

02/24/2009

ELECTRONIC

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

docketing@boylefred.com

<i>Office Action Summary</i>	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/521,057	YOUN ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	LEON HARPER	2166	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 12 January 2005.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-21 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-21 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

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DETAILED ACTION

1. This office action is in response to application 10521057 filed on 1/12/2005 with a priority date of 12/16/2003. Claims 1-21 are pending in this office action.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

The factual inquiries set forth in *Graham v. John Deere Co.*, 383 U.S. 1, 148 USPQ 459 (1966), that are applied for establishing a background for determining obviousness under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) are summarized as follows:

1. Determining the scope and contents of the prior art.
2. Ascertaining the differences between the prior art and the claims at issue.
3. Resolving the level of ordinary skill in the pertinent art.
4. Considering objective evidence present in the application indicating obviousness or nonobviousness.

Claims 1-21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over US 2004 0044657 (hereinafter Lee) in view of US 20050108207 (hereinafter Thuerk).

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As for claim 1 Lee discloses: one or more user terminals connected to the wired/wireless communication networks, for generating inquiry information using an on-line communication means and receiving corresponding materials for the inquiry (See paragraphs 0040-0042); one or more expert terminals connected to the wired/wireless communication networks, for providing reply information of pertinent knowledge classified by corresponding fields according to a user's information request (See paragraphs 0042); and classifying data for the reply information in response to the user's information request; and a professional knowledge information database connected to the service server(See paragraph 0039),, for classifying/storing the reply information provided from the expert terminals therein, so that the reply information is used as professional knowledge information corresponding to a user's professional knowledge request (See paragraph 0040).

Lee does not explicitly disclose a service server for transmitting the inquiry information of the user to the expert terminals that are being currently connected, transmitting the expert's reply information to the user terminal through the on-line communication means. Thuerk however does disclose: a service server for transmitting the inquiry information of the user to the expert terminals that are being currently connected, transmitting the expert's reply information to the user terminal through the on-line communication means (See paragraphs 0031, 0045). It would have been obvious to an artisan of ordinary skill in the pertinent at the time the invention was made to have incorporated the teaching of

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Thuerk into the system of Lee. The modification would have been obvious because the two references are concerned with the solution to problem of data processing, therefore there is an implicit motivation to combine these references. In other words, the ordinary skilled artisan, during his/her quest for a solution to the cited problem, would look to the cited references at the time the invention was made. Consequently, the ordinary skilled artisan would have been motivated to combine the cited references since Thuerk's teaching would enable user's of the Lee system to have user friendly communication means (See Thuerk paragraph 0008).

As for claim 2 the rejection of claim 1 is incorporated and further Lee discloses: wherein the users terminals are any one of a personal computer, a mobile phone and a PDA, which can connect to the Internet (See paragraph 0054).

As for claim 3 the rejection of claim 1 is incorporated and further Lee discloses: wherein the one or more expert terminals are expert's terminals that are being currently connected, which are classified by the field, language and region (See paragraph 0053).

As for claim 4 the rejection of claim 1 is incorporated and further Thuerk discloses: wherein the on-line communication means is a messenger (See paragraph 0045).

As for claim 5 the rejection of claim 1 is incorporated and further Thuerk discloses: wherein the on-line communication means is an Internet portal site (See paragraph 0025).

As for claim 6 the rejection of claim 1 is incorporated and further Thuerk discloses: wherein the user terminal performs an on-line connection of the on-line communication means via predetermined authentication procedure, and the service server has a SSO security application solution therein (See paragraph 0045), which permits access of the user terminals based on a user's log-on information that is initially inputted (See paragraphs 0024).

As for claim 7 the rejection of claim 1 is incorporated and further Lee discloses: a search server for classifying professional knowledge information corresponding to the user's request information and searching the professional knowledge information database for the professional knowledge information (See paragraph 0039); a mail server for transmitting the result information searched in the search server or information provided by the portal site to the user terminal; a contents server for providing a plurality of additional service information; and a knowledge server for classifying knowledge for a user's inquiry (See paragraph

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0020), classifying information on response, and operating and managing the professional knowledge information database (See paragraphs 0020, 0050-0051)

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As for claim 8 the rejection of claim 1 is incorporated and further Lee discloses: wherein the user terminals provide the degree of satisfaction for the reply information in numerical information, the professional knowledge information database matches the reply information and the numerical information and then stores the matched information therein, and the service server provides corresponding reply information and its numerical information when the user requests professional knowledge (See paragraph 0040).

As for claim Lee 9 discloses: b) generating inquiry information for a knowledge search through the on-line communication means; c) analyzing the inquiry information, and extracting previously stored basic information from a database depending on the analysis result; d). providing list information on the basic information through a web page of the portal service; e) confirming reply information provided from the list information through the user terminal, and if detailed information on the reply information is not requested, finishing a corresponding process and if detailed information on the reply information is requested, searching a plurality of experts who are previously registered based on the analysis result for the inquiry information (See paragraphs 0040-0042); f) extracting an expert who is being currently connected among the plurality of the

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experts, and transmitting the inquiry information to an expert terminal of the selected expert through the on-line communication means; g) (See paragraph 0039) j) in response to the reply information, finishing a corresponding process or returning to step f) by providing added/modified information for the inquiry information (See paragraphs 0039-0042)

Lee does not explicitly disclose a) performing an authentication procedure for accessing an on-line communication means to a user terminal requesting an on-line access for transmitting the reply information corresponding to the inquiry information, which is provided from the expert terminal, to the user terminal; h) if the user terminal does not accept the on-line access request, finishing a corresponding process, and if the user terminal accepts the on-line access request, allowing the user terminal and the expert terminal to be connected one-to-one with each other through real-time on\ line information transmit means. Thuerk however does disclose: a) performing an authentication procedure for accessing an on-line communication means to a user terminal (See paragraph 0045); requesting an on-line access for transmitting the reply information corresponding to the inquiry information, which is provided from the expert terminal, to the user terminal (See paragraph 0045); h) if the user terminal does not accept the on-line access request, finishing a corresponding process, and if the user terminal accepts the on-line access request, allowing the user terminal and the expert terminal to be connected one-to-one with each other through real-time on\ line information transmit means i) storing reply information

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provided to the user terminal in the database during the one-to-one connection between the user terminal and the expert terminal; and (See paragraphs 0046-0048). It would have been obvious to an artisan of ordinary skill in the pertinent art at the time the invention was made to have incorporated the teaching of Thuerk into the system of Lee. The modification would have been obvious because the two references are concerned with the solution to problem of data processing, therefore there is an implicit motivation to combine these references. In other words, the ordinary skilled artisan, during his/her quest for a solution to the cited problem, would look to the cited references at the time the invention was made. Consequently, the ordinary skilled artisan would have been motivated to combine the cited references since Thuerk's teaching would enable user's of the Lee system to have user friendly communication means (See Thuerk paragraph 0008).

As for claim 10 the rejection of claim 9 is incorporated and further Thuerk discloses: wherein the on-line communication means is an Internet portal site (See paragraph 0025).

As for claim 11 the rejection of claim 9 is incorporated and further Thuerk discloses: wherein the access to the database through the on-line communication means is an access method based on personal information

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provided in the authentication procedure and a SSO security application (See paragraph 0045)

As for claim 12 the rejection of claim 9 is incorporated and further Lee discloses: wherein the one or more expert terminals are expert's terminals that are being currently connected, which are classified by the field, language and region (See paragraph 0053).

As for claim 13 the rejection of claim 9 is incorporated and further Lee discloses: wherein the users terminals are any one of a personal computer, a mobile phone and a PDA, which can connect to the Internet (See paragraph 0054).

As for claim 14 the rejection of claim 9 is incorporated and further Lee discloses: wherein the user terminal generates evaluation information on the reply information, and the database matches the inquiry information and the reply information and then stores the matched information therein, and provides the reply information based on the evaluation information when providing the basic information in step c) (See paragraph 0045)

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Claim 15 is a method claim substantially corresponding to the claim 9 and is thus rejected for the same reasons as set forth in the rejection of claim 9.

As for claim 16, the rejection of claim 15 is incorporated and further Thuerk discloses: wherein the on-line communication means is a messenger, and the real-time on-line information transmit means is a chatting window, which is any one of chatting, a web phone, image chatting and a web board (See paragraph 0045).

As for claim 17, the rejection of claim 15 is incorporated and further Lee discloses: wherein the user terminal generates evaluation information on the reply information, and the database matches the inquiry information and the reply information, and the evaluation information, and then stores the matched information therein (See paragraph 0051).

As for claim 18, the rejection of claim 15 is incorporated and further Thuerk discloses: wherein the access to the database through the on-line communication means is an access method based on personal information provided in the authentication procedure and a SSO security application solution (See paragraph 0024).

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As for claim 19, the rejection of claim 15 is incorporated and further Lee discloses: wherein the inquiry information is keyword containing selection information classified by the language, region and field (See paragraph 0053).

As for claim 20, the rejection of claim 15 is incorporated and further Lee discloses: wherein the user terminal is any one of a personal computer, a mobile phone and a PDA, which can connect to the Internet (See paragraph 0054).

As for claim 21, the rejection of claim 15 is incorporated and further Lee discloses: wherein the reply information is any one of text data information, video information, and recording information (See paragraph 0011).

Information

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to LEON HARPER whose telephone number is (571)272-0759. The examiner can normally be reached on Flex.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Hosain Alam can be reached on (571) 272-3978. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

LJH
Leon J. Harper
February 16, 2009

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/Hosain T Alam/

Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2166